SITUATION REPORT NO. 31
INCIDENT NO. 2000-016
DATE: September 29, 2000   TIME: 3:00 p.m.

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
      State Capitol
      Bismarck, N.D. 58505

1.   <u>NATURE OF DISASTER</u>: Flooding, ground saturation and storms.

2.   <u>DEATHS AND INJURIES</u>: No change from previous reports.

3.   <u>DAMAGES</u>: No change from previous reports.

4.   <u>RESOURCES</u>:

     <u>LOCAL</u>: No change from previous reports.

     <u>STATE</u>: No change from previous reports.

     <u>FEDERAL</u>: No change from previous reports.

5.   <u>VOLUNTEER ACTIONS</u>: No change from previous reports.

6.   <u>MAJOR ACTIONS</u>: Based on an August 18 request by the Governor, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a Secretarial Disaster Declaration on September 26, 2000, for 35 North Dakota counties due to losses caused by wind, severe storms, excessive rain, tornadoes and other severe weather this spring and summer. The designation makes all qualified family-sized farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties eligible for low-interest emergency loans from the USDA. The counties of Billings, Bowman, Cass, Dunn, Eddy, Foster, Golden Valley, Grand Forks, Griggs, Hettinger, Nelson, Pembina, Slope, Stark, Steele, Traill, Walsh, and Wells were named as primary disaster areas. Also eligible, are the contiguous counties of Adams, Barnes, Benson, Cavalier, Grant, Kidder, McKenzie, McLean, Mercer, Morton, Mountrail, Pierce, Ramsey, Ransom, Richland, Sheridan, and Stutsman Counties.

Staff members for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will distribute educational material and will discuss hazard mitigation measures this weekend at the Fargo Home Builders Association remodeling show at the Veterans Memorial Arena in West Fargo. They will staff a booth at the mall from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Saturday and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. A presentation on building and remodeling a house to make it more disaster resistant will be conducted at 2:30 p.m. Saturday and 1:45 p.m. Sunday.

As of September 29, Job Service North Dakota received 5,442 claims and paid $6,418,961 in Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) benefits to farmers, ranchers, farm workers, migrant workers and other self-employed individuals who have lost income because of disaster conditions. While the application period has ended, Job Service will process claims through December 30. Applicants are eligible for benefits for the period April 9 through December 30.

The Public Assistance Program has approved 150 eligible requests for public assistance from local governments, state agencies and private non-profit organizations. As of September 29, almost $3.2 million has been paid to applicants.

A total of 9,572 North Dakotans registered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Teleregistration Center for individual assistance programs. The last day to register was September 22.

- The Disaster Housing Program has received 8,009 applications. To date, FEMA has paid $13,948,611 million in housing benefits. More than $2 million in housing benefits has been designated for mitigation measures to prevent or minimize future flooding. These measures include installation of drain plugs and backwater valves, elevating appliances, anchoring mobile homes, replacing sump pumps and repairing and relocating electrical panels.

- The Individual and Family Grant Program, administered by North Dakota Emergency Management, has received 3,464 applications and has approved more than $3.2 million in benefits.

- The Small Business Administration (SBA) has received 1,845 applications to disaster victims and has administered nearly $10.4 million in loans.

7.   ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.

8.   OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.

9.   OTHER: FEMA has developed a web page with cleanup and recovery information. The page is located at: http://www.fema.gov/reg-viii/floods.htm

Situation Reports published by North Dakota Emergency Management are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is: http://www.state.nd.us/dem.

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Douglas C. Friez, State Director